

"Response". That Response was in reply to the second official Office Action mailed on July 31, 2001 addressing the Examiner's rejection of claims 1 through 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 112; claims 11 and 17 through 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Feltman III et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,680,951); and claims 12 through 16 over the combination of Feltman III and Dodge (U.S. Patent No. 1,907,254). Claim 21 was not rejected and appeared to be allowable except for its dependent format.

In the Response filed on September 18, 2001, the Applicants through their undersigned representative traversed the rejections under Section 112, as well as Section 103(a). With respect to the rejection of claim 11 and claims 17 through 20 over Feltman III, et al., the Applicants through their undersigned representative argued (see page 5, first full paragraph) that the "seal means of independent claim 11 reads on structure which prevented the flow of fluid both out of and into the fluid container." Upon reviewing claim 11 and the differences therewith with respect to independent claim 1, the "seal means" of claim 11 is believed to read on structure which only prevents the flow of fluid out of the receptacle and not fluid into the receptacle. Therefore, with respect to claim 11, the Applicants wish to rely solely on the argument that the dual floor feature of claim 11 distinguishes the invention over the cited reference. Specifically, the Applicants request that the Examiner ignore the arguments set forth on page 5, lines 4 through the second line of page 6 of that Response.

The Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' representative by telephone at (206) 682-1600 to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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